Shin-Cooper Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Today’s Issues in the United States: Urban Sprawl**

Directions: Please answer each question in full sentences.

1. What is the definition of urban sprawl in your own words? Where is urban sprawl likely to occur?
2. Why might urban sprawl be a problem? Can you give examples of urban sprawl in your area?
3. What are the causes of urban sprawl?
4. What do you think are the three most important ideas to put into a **smart growth** plan?

Directions: Please read the following information. After reading the paragraph, answer the following questions according to your own opinions.

Suburbs have been around for a long time. Some suburbs started as small villages around major cities and may have taken days to travel to. However, with the creation of faster transportation, people became more attracted to these outside communities. Today, some suburbs are newer than other suburbs. Some suburbs were created a little after World War II and other suburbs were only created within the last ten years.

1. Why do people want to move to the suburbs today?
2. What do you think is the difference between urban sprawl and more traditional village centers?
3. How do street designs and layouts affect a town? How would you describe your hometown? Does it have a smart layout or one that causes more traffic and congestion?
4. How might sprawl affect people’s interactions with their neighbors? (Hint: Think about people being able to interact with each other)
5. What are some things that a town planner can do to prevent sprawl?
6. What are some of the possible benefits of living in a sprawled area?